

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 01765 191601Z
ACTION NEA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSCE-00 INR-05 INRE-00 SSO-00
CIAE-00 NSAE-00 IO-06 EUR-08 AF-04 PM-03 DODE-00
TRSE-00 OMB-01 EB-04 L-01 SP-02 /056 W
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O R 191500Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7050
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 1765

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, MASS, IR, CD, LY
SUBJ: IRANIAN MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CHAD

REF: TEHRAN 1723

1. FOREIGN MINISTER KHALATBARY INFORMED ME EVENING FEBRUARY 19 THAT HE HAD MET THAT AFTERNOON WITH CHAD DELEGATION AND ASSURED THEM OF IRANIAN SYMPATHY WITH THEIR NEED FOR MILITARY SUPPLIES TO RESIST LIBYAN AGGRESSION. HOWEVER, HE SAID HE WAS PERPLEXED BY NEWS STORIES WHICH SAID THAT CHAD AND LIBYA HAD RESUMED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, THAT THE TWO CHIEFS OF STATE WERE TO MEET IN LIBYA AND THAT THE CHADIAN COMPLAINT TO THE UNSC HAD BEEN WITHDRAWN.

2. CHADIANS ADMITTED TO BEING UNINFORMED ABOUT THESE
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PAGE 02 TEHRAN 01765 191601Z

DEVELOPMENTS, BUT ASSERTED THAT THEY DID NOT CHANGE THEIR MISSION. THEY PRESENTED THEIR PLEA FOR GRANT MILITARY AID AND APPARENTLY LEFT A GENERALIZED LIST OF THEIR DISIRES.

3. KHALATBARY INFORMED THEM THAT IRAN WOULD HAVE TO STUDY THE MATTER, PARTICULARLY IN THE LIGHT OF LATEST DEVELOPMENTS. HE TOLD ME THAT IT WOULD BE A MAJOR UNDER-

TAKING TO FLY THE SORT OF HEAVY TRUCKS AND JEEPS THEY WANT
ALL THE WAY TO CHAD, AND THAT THE EXPENSE WOULD BE ENORMOUS.
ON THE OTHER HAND, SEABORNE SHIPMENTS WOULD TAKE SO LONG
THAT THEIR TIMELINESS WOULD BE QUESTIONABLE.

4. IN ANY EVENT, HE COMPLIMENTED HEM ON THE ASTUTE
MOVE BY THEIR GOVERNMENT TO SEEK A POLITICAL SOLUTION. HE
TOLD ME HE WOULD WELCOME ANY INSIGHTS WE MIGHT HAVE AS TO
MEANING OF THESE LATEST MOVES.
SULLIVAN

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NNN

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